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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 49

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

INTRODUCED BY

Ben Lujan

A JOINT MEMORIAL

**REQUESTING THAT THE SAN JUAN-CHAMA PROJECT WATER CONTRACT
BETWEEN THE CITY OF ESPANOLA, THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SANTA FE
AND THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BE CHANGED TO
A REPAYMENT PERPETUAL AGREEMENT AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF
ADDRESSING A MULTICOUNTY REGION.**

**WHEREAS, on June 13, 1962 (76 Stat. 96), congress approved
the initial stage of the San Juan-Chama project, with Colorado
and New Mexico as participants in the Colorado river storage
project; and**

**WHEREAS, the San Juan-Chama project provides water to a
multicounty region, including Taos, Rio Arriba, Santa Fe,
Sandoval, Bernalillo and Valencia counties, as well as to
tribal governments, municipalities and other entities; and**

WHEREAS, the San Juan-Chama project is approved for

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1 furnishing water throughout the multi-county region for
2 municipal, domestic and industrial uses and other beneficial
3 purposes; and

4 WHEREAS, the city of Espanola, located in Rio Arriba and
5 Santa Fe counties, and the United States department of the
6 interior entered into an agreement, dated February 16, 1978,
7 whereby the city was allocated one thousand acre-feet of water
8 per year from the San Juan-Chama project; and

9 WHEREAS, the city and county of Santa Fe and the United
10 States department of the interior entered into an agreement,
11 dated November 23, 1976, whereby the city and county were
12 allocated five thousand six hundred five acre-feet of water
13 from the San Juan-Chama project; and

14 WHEREAS, the city of Espanola and the city and county of
15 Santa Fe have utilized the project water to offset excess water
16 usage from their municipal wells and intend to construct a
17 water filtration facility utilizing project water; and

18 WHEREAS, existing and future users of water within the
19 city of Espanola and the city and county of Santa Fe are
20 dependent upon a reliable, sustainable supply of project water
21 now and over the long term; and

22 WHEREAS, the agreement between the city of Espanola and
23 the United States department of the interior is due to expire
24 on December 31, 2018; and

25 WHEREAS, the agreement between the city and county of

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1 Santa Fe and the United States department of the interior is
2 due to expire on December 31, 2016; and

3 WHEREAS, other San Juan-Chama contractors, including the
4 city of Albuquerque, the middle Rio Grande conservancy
5 district, the Pojoaque valley irrigation district, the town of
6 Bernalillo, the city of Belen and the town of Red River, all
7 have repayment perpetual agreements; and

8 WHEREAS, the Jicarilla Apache Nation and the Cochiti
9 reservoir recreational pool have agreements that can only be
10 terminated by an act of congress;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it support, consistent with other
13 regional agreements, the city of Espanola, the city and county
14 of Santa Fe and all other entities that have or may have water
15 service agreements with the United States department of the
16 interior for San Juan-Chama project water contract allotments
17 to have those water service agreements converted to repayment
18 perpetual agreements; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
20 delivered to the secretary of the United States department of
21 the interior and to members of the New Mexico congressional
22 delegation.